

**In the Claims**

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1       1. [Currently amended] A method for processing invoices  
2       by having the individual employee of an enterprise creating  
3       an original order for goods and services for end-use by said  
4       individual employee determine that a resulting invoice  
5       should be paid or not, comprising the steps of:

6       receiving at an enterprise accounting and catalog  
7       system from said individual employee a requisition for  
8       goods or services from a vendor;

9       said enterprise accounting and catalog system preparing  
10      from said requisition a purchase order;

11      said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
12      submitting said purchase order selectively as one of an  
13      EDI message and a paper purchasing document to said  
14      vendor;

15      receiving from said vendor an invoice for said goods or  
16      services as one of an electronic invoice and a paper

17       invoice, said electronic invoice being received for  
18       processing by said enterprise accounting and catalog  
19       system and said paper invoice being received for  
20       processing to said enterprise accounting and catalog  
21       system by accounts payable personnel;

22       preparing an invoice image of an invoice received for  
23       said goods or services or commodities ordered by said  
24       individual employee;

25       storing said invoice image in an image store;

26       keying said image to invoice data;

27       said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
28       communicating by electronic mail an invoice  
29       confirmation request to said individual creating said  
30       original order, said request instructing said  
31       individual employee to log on to said enterprise  
32       accounting and catalog system, including said invoice  
33       data and a link to said invoice image, and specifying  
34       that said invoice is subject to one of negative  
35       confirmation and positive confirmation processing;

36       providing at a user workstation a search interface in  
37       said enterprise accounting and catalog system for said  
38       individual employee to enter criteria and have links to  
39       images of invoices that match said criteria be  
40       displayed at said user workstation; and

41       responsive to selection of said link a link by said  
42       individual, displaying said invoice image for approval  
43       by said individual creating said original order  
44       selectively by said confirmation and positive  
45       confirmation processing.

1       2. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2       the step of:

3       preparing said invoice images by scanning paper  
4       invoices received from a vendor.

1       3. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising  
2       the step of:

3       preparing other of said invoice images by converting

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4           electronic invoices received from a vendor into an  
5           image file representation having the look and feel of a  
6           paper invoice.

1       4. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, said  
2       invoice confirmation request advising said individual  
3       employee to process said confirmation as negative  
4       confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1       5. [Currently amended] The method of claim 4, said  
2       invoice confirmation request further advising said  
3       individual employee to log on to a front-end requisition and  
4       catalog server to view invoices for confirmation.

1       6. [Currently amended] The method of claim 5, further  
2       comprising the step responsive to said individual employee  
3       logging on to said front-end server of displaying a list of  
4       invoices awaiting confirmation and responsive to user  
5       selection of a selected invoice, presenting images of  
6       invoices corresponding to links selected by said individual  
7       employee.

1       7. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, further  
2       comprising the steps of presenting to said individual  
3       employee an interface for selecting images of invoices  
4       matching a selection criteria.

1       8. [Canceled]

1       9. [Currently amended] A system for processing invoices  
2       by having the individual employee creating an original order  
3       for goods or services for end use by said individual  
4       determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not,  
5       comprising:

6           a front-end requisition and catalog system;

7           a back-end procurement services system;

8           a scanner for scanning images of invoices;

9           an image system and store for storing said scanned  
10          images and serving them to said workstation keyed to

11       said invoice;

12       a workstation selectively receiving user entry from  
13       said individual employee of a requisition request for  
14       goods or services for end-use by said individual  
15       employee, receiving confirmation requests, and viewing  
16       images of invoices from said image system and store;  
17       said confirmation request instructing said individual  
18       employee to log on to said back-end system to view and  
19       approve an invoice by a specified one of negative and  
20       positive confirmation processing;

21       said front-end system selectively receiving said  
22       requisition requests from said workstation, forwarding  
23       said requisition requests to said back-end system, and  
24       receiving confirmation requests from said back-end  
25       system for forwarding to said workstation; and

26       said back-end system selectively issuing purchase  
27       orders against said requisitions to a vendor  
28       selectively as one of an electronic and paper purchase  
29       order, receiving and processing invoices electronic  
30       invoices directly from said vendor and paper invoices  
31       as received and processed by accounts payable

32           personnel, keying invoice images to invoice  
33           information, and processing confirmation requests to  
34           said front-end system for communication to said  
35           workstation for approval by said individual employee  
36           creating said original order.

1       10. [Previously presented] A program storage device  
2       readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of  
3       instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for  
4       processing invoices by having the individual employee  
5       creating an original order determine that a resulting  
6       invoice should be paid or not, said method comprising:

7           preparing an invoice image;

8           storing said invoice image in an image store;

9           keying said image to invoice data;

10          communicating invoice confirmation request to said  
11          individual employee, said request including said  
12          invoice data and a link to said invoice image;

13           responsive to requester selection of said link,  
14           displaying said invoice image to said individual  
15           employee for approval by said individual employee  
16           creating said original order.

1       11. [Currently amended] A computer program product or  
2       computer program element for processing invoices by having  
3       the individual employee creating an original order for goods  
4       and services for end-use by said individual employee  
5       determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not  
6       according to steps comprising:

7       receiving at an enterprise accounting and catalog  
8       system from said individual employee a requisition for  
9       goods or services from a vendor;

10      said enterprise accounting and catalog system preparing  
11      from said requisition a purchase order;

12      said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
13      submitting said purchase order selectively as one of an  
14      EDI message and a paper purchasing document to said  
15      vendor;

16        receiving from said vendor an invoice for said goods or  
17        services as one of an electronic invoice and a paper  
18        invoice, said electronic invoice being received for  
19        processing by said enterprise accounting and catalog  
20        system and said paper invoice being received for  
21        processing to said enterprise accounting and catalog  
22        system by accounts payable personnel.

23        preparing an invoice image of an invoice received for  
24        said goods or services ordered by said individual  
25        employee;

26        storing said invoice image in an image store;

27        keying said image to invoice data;

28        said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
29        communicating by electronic mail communicating an  
30        invoice confirmation request to said individual  
31        employee, said request instructing said individual  
32        employee to log on to said enterprise accounting and  
33        catalog system, including said invoice data and a link  
34        to said invoice image, and specifying that said invoice  
35        is subject to one of negative confirmation and positive

36       confirmation processing;

37       providing at a user workstation a search interface in  
38       said enterprise accounting and catalog system for said  
39       individual employee to enter criteria and have links to  
40       images of invoices that match said criteria be  
41       displayed at said user workstation; and

42       responsive to selection of said link a link by said  
43       individual employee, displaying said invoice image for  
44       approval by said said individual employee creating  
45       said original order selectively by said confirmation  
46       and positive confirmation processing.

1       12. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 10, said method further comprising:

3       preparing said invoice images by scanning paper  
4       invoices received from a vendor.

1       13. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 12, said method further comprising:

3           preparing other of said invoice images by converting  
4           electronic invoices received from a vendor into an  
5           image file representation having the look and feel of a  
6           paper invoice.

1       14. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 10, said invoice confirmation request advising said  
3       individual employee to process said confirmation as negative  
4       confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1       15. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 14, said invoice confirmation request further advising  
3       said individual employee to log on to a front- end  
4       requisition and catalog server to view invoices for  
5       confirmation.

1       16. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 15, said method further comprising responsive to said  
3       individual employee logging on to said front-end server of  
4       displaying a list of invoices awaiting confirmation and

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5 responsive to selection of a selected invoice by said  
6 individual employee, presenting images of invoices  
7 corresponding to links selected by said individual employee.

1 17. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2 claim 10, said method further comprising presenting to said  
3 individual employee an interface for selecting images of  
4 invoices matching a selection criteria.

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